

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 217355

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:ACFLOYD:DAB

APPROVED BY S THE SECRETARY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 217355

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, NATO, NO

SUBJECT: DATES OF NATO MINISTERIAL

REF: USNATO 5091

1. SECRETARY HAS DECIDED NOT TO TRAVEL TO OSLO TO RECEIVE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AND WILL DEFER TRADITIONAL LAUREATE'S LECTURE. AFTER EMBASSY OSLO HAS CARRIED OUT INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM PRIZE COMMITTEE PER SEPTTEL, YOU MAY INFORM THE COUNCIL THAT SECRETARY WILL ATTEND NAC MINISTERIAL AS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED DECEMBER 10-11. YOU SHOULD ASK YOUR COLLEAGUES TO HOLD INFORMATION ABOUT SECRETARY'S NOBEL PEACE PRIZE TRAVEL PLANS IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE UNTIL THE MATTER IS ANNOUNCED SIMULTANEOUSLY BY PRIZE COMMITTEE IN OSLO AND DEPARTMENT HERE.

2. WE ANTICIPATE MEDIA QUESTIONS ON WHETHER SECRETARY'S DECISION TO POSTPONE TRAVEL TO OSLO STEMS FROM CONFLICT
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 217355

OF DATES BETWEEN NOBEL CEREMONY AND NATO MINISTERIAL. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WILL RESPOND TO SUCH QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE. FACT THAT NATO MINISTERIAL AND OSLO CEREMONY DATES COINCIDE WAS NOT THE PRINCIPAL FACTOR IN

HIS DECISION TO POSTPONE OSLO VISIT AT THIS TIME. RATHER
IT WAS THE TO AL PRESS OF BUSINESS THAT LED TO THE
DECISION.

3. YOU SHOULD FOLLOW ABOVE LINE IF JOURNALISTS RAISE THIS
QUESTION AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT NATO PRESS SPOKESMAN AND
OTHER DELEGATIONS WOULD HANDLE QUERIES IN SAME MANNER. KISSINGER

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE217355
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/RPM:ACFLOYD:DAB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750026-1860
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejnb.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: USNATO 5091
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <28-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DATES OF NATO MINISTERIAL
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, US, NO, NATO
To: NATO INFO OSLO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005